

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

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USLO PEKING

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1083

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNSC, XF

SUBJ: SCALI-TEKOA H DISCUSSION ON UNEF EXTENSION

REF: STATE 06453

SUMMARY. ISRAELI PERMREP TEKOA H CALLED AT HIS REQUEST ON AMB SCALI APRIL 1 TO REVIEW PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN EXGENSION OF UNEF MANDATE. SCALI SAID MOST DIFFICULT AND EMOTIONALLY CHARGED ISSUE WAS THAT OF "ISRAELI DISCRIMINATION" AGAINST CERTAIN UNEF CONTINGENTS. US WOULD SUPPORT SIRAE L'S POSITION AS LONG AND HARD AS IT COULD, BUT WOULD BE ALONE. SCALI SUGGESTED AS FRIEND THAT ISRAEL THINK HARD ABOUT HOW LONG IT WAS IN ITS INTEREST TO STICK ON THIS ISSUE. TEKOA H SHOWED LITTLE GIVE. ON OTHER TOPICS, TEKOA H SUGGESTED SCENARIO FOR SC MEETING THAT WOULD EXCLUDE PARTIES, AND SEEMED TO ACCEPT INEVITABILITY OF SIX-MONTH EXTENSION OF FORCE. END SUMMARY.

1. RESPONDING TO TEKOA H'S QUERY AS TO WHAT HE CONSIDERED
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MAJOR PROBLEMS IN CONNECTION WITH THIS WEEK'S EXTENSION

OF UNEF MANDATE, SCALI SAID HE THOUGH MAIN PROBLEM WOULD BE "ISRAELI DISCRIMINATION" ISSUE. NON-ALIGNED COULD BE EXPECTED TO DEMAND THAT ALL UNEF CONTINGENTS BE TREATED THE SAME BY BOTH APRTIES, AND SOVIETS WOULD CERTAINLY CHIME IN. U.S. POSITION CONTINUED TO BE THAT UNEF WAS PRIMARILY A CONSENT OPERATION WHICH REQUIRED CONFIDENCE OF PARTIES IN ORDER TO OPERATE EFFECTIVELY.

2. SCALI WENT ON TO SAY THAT DISCRIMINATION ISSUE COULD CAUSE REAL DIFFICULTIES DURING FORTHCOMING MANDATE EXTENSION, WITH US ISOLATED ON THIS CONTENTIOUS ISSUE. SPEAKING ENTIRELY PERSONALLY AND AS A FRIEND, HE SUGGESTED THAT ISRAEL THINK VERY HARD ABOUT HOW LONG IT WAS IN ITS INTEREST TO PERSIST IN ITS PRESENT POSITION.

3. TEKOAH REPLIED THAT HE PERSONALLY COULD NOT SEE ANY BENEFIT IN HAVING POLISH TROOPS MOVE ABOUT IN ISRAELI POSITIONS. MAIN CONSIDERATION FROM ISRAELI STANDPOINT WAS THAT AS SOON AS ISRAELIS CHANGED THEIR POSITION ON UNEF CONTINGENTS, THEY HAD NO LOGICAL BASIS FOR EXCLUDING SOVIET UNTSO OFFICERS FROM ISRAELI SOIL. MOREOVER HE CLAIMED POLISH UNEF CONTINGENT HAD SOV OFFICERS, OBVIOUSLY THERE WAS A CLEAR DIFFERENCE IN ISRAELI MINDS BETWEEN INDONESIANS AND GHANAIS ON ONE HAND AND SOVIETS AND POLES ON THE OTHER, BUT IT WAS DIFFICULT TO DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN THEM IN PRINCIPLE.

4. TEKOAH SAID HE ASSUMED THAT, PROCEDURALLY, DISCRIMINATION ISSUE COULD COME UP EITHER AS PART OF THE BASIC RENEWAL RESOLUTION, AS A SEPARATE RESOLUTION, OR SIMPLY AS PART OF THE DEBATE. HE HOPED US WOULD OPPOSE ANY RESOLUTION LANGUAGE THAT WENT BEYOND SIMPLE EXTENSION OF MANDATE. FOR PRECEDENT'S SAKE, AS WELL AS TO AVOID CONTENTIOUS DEBATE DURING FORTHCOMING MEETING, HE FELT IT WAS VITAL TO AVOID INSERTION OF ANY ISSUE OUTSIDE RENEWAL OF MANDATE.

5. SCALI REITERATED THAT US POSITION COINCIDED WITH THAT OF ISRAEL, AND WE WOULD STAND ON IT AS LONG AND AS HARD AS WE COULD. AT THIS STAGE IT WAS NOT CLEAR HOW HARD SOVIETS

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INTENDED TO PUSH. MOREOVER, KT WAS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT UNEF WAS ORIGINALLY FORMED WITH IDEA THAT TROOPS FROM ALL CONTINGENTS COULD GO EVERYWHERE. FINALLY, US WISHED TO PRESERVE POSSIBILITY OF USING UNEF IN SYRIAN-ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT. AMB SCHAUFLE REMARKED THAT EVEN IF WE GOT BY DURING THIS EXTENSION, IT LIKELY TO BE MORE DIFFICULT 6 MONTHS HENCE.

6. DRAWING ON PARAS 7 AND 4 OF REFTTEL, SCALI EXPLAINED THAT US, AFTER CAREFUL STUDY, HAD DETERMINED THAT 6-MONTH EXTENSION WAS BEST ATTAINABLE OUTCOME. TEKOAH REPLIED THAT SIX MONTHS DURATION SEEMED A FOREGONE CONCLUSION CONSIDERING EGYPTIAN ATTITUDE.

7. FINAL TOPIC RAISED BY TEKOAH WAS WHETHER PARTIES WOULD PARTICIPATE IN UNEF EXTENSION DEBATE. HE SAID THAT HE WAS PREPARED TO RECOMMEND TO TEL AVIV THAT ISRAEL AGREE TO SCENARIO EXCLUDING PARTIES, IF EGYPT AND SYRIA AGREED. HE WONDERED WHETHER IT MIGHT NOT BE POSSIBLE TO HAVE CLOSED SC MEETING WITH FORMAL RECORD RATHER THAN OPEN DEBATE. SCALI SAID HE THOUGH IDEA HAD MERIT, BUT FELT IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO WORK OUT RIGID SCENARIO. HE SAID HE WOULD RAISE QUESTION WITH SYG, AND WOULD ALSO RECOMMEND TO WALDHEIM THAT HE SKIRT DISCRIMINATION ISSUE AS HE HAD IN INFORMAL SC CONSIDERATIONS.
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